

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend Claims 5 and 7 so that the text of the amended claim reads as follows:

5. (Amended) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.

7. (Amended) A recombinant expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

RESPONSE

I. Status of the Claims

Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 5 and 7 have been amended. Claims 2-8 are therefore presently pending in the case. For the convenience of the Examiner and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), a clean copy of the pending claims is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and a marked-up copy of the original claims is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**

II. Support for the Amended Specification and Claims

Claim 5 has been amended to depend on Claim 3 rather than cancelled Claim 1. Amendment of Claim 5 finds support in original Claim 5 and throughout the specification as originally filed, with particular support being found at least on page 17, line 10-15. In addition claims 5 and 7 have been amended to remove the term isolated which was inaccurate.

Amendments to claim 5 and 7 are fully supported by the specification and claims as originally filed, they do not constitute new matter. Entry, therefore, is respectfully requested.